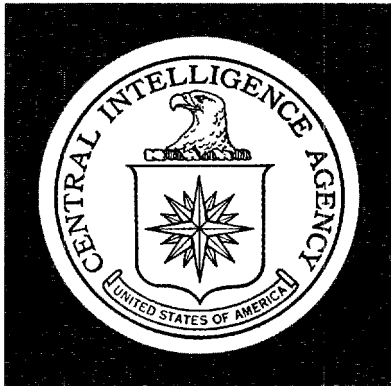


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Rumania-USSR: Rumanians are giving conflicting accounts of the situation Bucharest faces. (Page 5)

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Rumania-USSR: Rumanians are providing conflicting commentary to Western officials on the difficulties Bucharest faces because of the Czechoslovak situation.

Rumanian officials stationed abroad tend to emphasize that tensions in Rumanian Government circles over the possibility of Soviet intervention are still relatively high; this may be an effort to keep attention focused on their country's circumstances. At home, however, Rumanian authorities have stressed that the country is returning toward normalcy and that the threat of Soviet interference diminishes each day.

Rumanian Foreign Minister Manescu's remarks to Secretary Rusk on 1 October exemplify the approach being made abroad. Although Manescu said that it would be preferable to have the situation calm down locally, he also stated that the Soviet threat remains alive. He further stressed that the US must make it clear to Moscow--although not in "cold war" terms--that the Soviets cannot do as they please. Throughout the discussion, Manescu reiterated that the Rumanians remain worried over possible Soviet actions.

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A business as usual outlook also was implicit in the comments [redacted] on the recent visit to Bucharest of Warsaw Pact commander, Soviet Marshal Yakubovsky. [redacted]

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[redacted] Yakubovsky did not propose holding a Warsaw Pact maneuver involving Rumanian forces either inside or outside Rumania, nor did he request authorization for Soviet troops to transit Rumania.

[redacted] Yakubovsky used his tour of Pact countries only to discuss routine Pact matters [redacted]

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[redacted] the visit had not given the Rumanians any cause for concern. [redacted]

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